GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5177
ANSWERED ON:05.04.2017
Dirty Laundry
Patil Shri Kapil Moreshwar

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are reports/complaints of smelly/dirty blankets used in railway coaches since presently they are being washed once in a month;
(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
(c) whether the Government has directed the Railways to ensure that the blankets, pillows, bedsheets, etc. provided to the commuters are washed and cleaned regularly;
(d) if so, the details thereof; and
(e) whether the Railways is in the process of procuring more durable and washable blankets and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)
(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. A few complaints are received.
Reasons in brief:
Specified frequency of blanket washing is once in two months. In between these are stored in coaches itself. This may cause some blankets to become smelly. Some blankets could become dirty due to use and/or handling in between.
(c) & (d) Yes, Madam. Washing of linen (bedsheets, hand towel & pillow cover) is done after every single use, and blankets are cleaned regularly at least once in two months.
No used and unwashed linen is to be supplied to passengers.
(e) No such procurement is presently in process.
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